

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03259 301358Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
HA-05 MCT-01 /071 W  
-----012916 301413Z /45

R 301308Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1110  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
USINT BAGHDAD POUCH  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, KU  
SUBJECT: KUWAIT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PROTEST LACK OF  
STUDENT RIGHTS

REF: KUWAIT 558 (NOTAL)

1. MANY KUWAIT UNIVERSITY (KU) STUDENTS SKIPPED CLASSES  
MAY 29, IN PEACEFUL PROTEST OF A UNIVERSITY BAN ON THE  
ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES OF STUDENT POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE  
BAN HAD BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT LAST JANUARY WHEN TWO  
BAHRAINI STUDENT GROUPS CLASHED (REFTEL). THE PROTEST TOOK  
THE FORM OF A MARCH BY STUDENTS, REPORTEDLY NUMBERING UNDER  
A THOUSAND AND ESCORTED BY POLICE CARS, FROM THE AUDALIYA  
CAMPUS TO THE KHALDIA CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY, WHERE A  
DELEGATION FROM THE SECRETARIAT OF THE KU STUDENTS UNION THEN  
CALLED ON THE ACTING RECTOR AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICIALS. THE DELEGATION REQUESTED THE OFFICIALS TO LIFT  
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 03259 301358Z

THE BAN. CONCURRENTLY, MORE STUDENTS JOINED THE  
GROUP, WHICH MET IN THE KHALDIA AUDITORIUM TO HEAR STUDENT  
SPEECHES DEMANDING RESTORATION OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND  
DECRYING ADMINISTRATION PATERNALISM. AFTER AN HOUR OR SO  
OF SPEECHES, THE AIR CONDITIONING WAS TURNED OFF AND THE  
MEETING MOVED OUTSIDE FOR FURTHER SPEECHES. IT REPORTEDLY  
BROKE UP PEACEFULLY, THOUGH SOME SPEAKERS ASSERTED THAT

THEY WOULD NOT OBSERVE THE BAN.

2. THE KU ADMINISTRATION IS REPORTED TO HAVE PROMISED TO MEET WITH STUDENT LEADERS AGAIN MAY 31, HEAR FURTHER GRIEVANCES AND SUBMIT THE QUESTION OF THE BAN FOR REVIEW BY THE KU COUNCIL NEXT WEEK.

3. COMMENT: WITH THE APPROACH OF THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AND THE PROBABLE ASTUTE RESPONSE OF THE KU ADMINISTRATION TO STUDENT DEMANDS, WE WOULD NOT EXPECT MUCH TO COME OF THE CURRENT PROTEST -- THE BAN MAY WELL BE LIFTED. HOWEVER, FINAL EXAM TIME IS ALWAYS TENSE AND THERE HAS BEEN SOME GRUMBLING LATELY ABOUT THE "AMERICANIZATION" OF UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES, BOTH ON AND OFF THE CAMPUS. FURTHER PUBLIC MANIFESTATION OF STUDENT COMPLAINTS MAY OCCUR.  
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KUWAIT03259  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Film Number:** D780225-1202  
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**Message ID:** 50972aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 KUWAIT 558  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2753055  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KUWAIT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PROTEST LACK OF STUDENT RIGHTS  
**TAGS:** PGOV, SHUM, KU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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